

DIRECTION

FOR THE USE OF

VELNOS' VEGETABLE SYRUP.

A N D

AN ACCOUNT OF CURES BY IT

I N

Scorbutic, Scrophulous, Leprous, Rheumatic, and Paralytic Cases.

By ISAAC SWAINSON,

SOLE PROPRIETOR AND ONLY SUCCESSOR TO

MR. DE VELNOS AND DR. MERCIER,

At No. 21, Frith Street, Soho, London.

*Scire potestatis herbarum, usumque
Medendi maluit.*

VIRG.

The Medicine can be prepared only in Frith Street, where it is sold at 11s. 6d. a Bottle; and, by Mr. Swainson's Appointment, at Mr. Atkinson's, Chymist and Drug-gist, No. 196, Bishopsgate Street Without; at Mr. Ridgway's, No. 196, Piccadilly; and at Mr. Robson's No. 1, Sloane Square, Chelsea.

M.DCC.LXXXVII.

1608/5635.



VELNOS'

ORIGINAL VEGETABLE SYRUP,

Prepared by ISAAC SWAINSON, sole Proprietor, and only Successor to the late Mr. De Velnos and Dr. Mercier, No. 21, Frith Street, Soho, London.

THE inefficacy of medical prescriptions and preparations is chiefly owing to their being applied to the *symptoms* and *effects* of disorders, and not to the *disorders themselves*.

Apoplectic and paralitic affections; the gout; the rheumatism; eruptions on the face and body; an obstructed perspiration, attended by an offensive breath; glandular swellings, and tumours in the throat; nocturnal terrors and pains, attended by an excruciating head-ach; irregular and obstructed menses; slow fevers and consumptions; a diseased liver; inflammation in the eyes; a general debility and wasting of the body; the scrophula and cancer—are generally considered and treated as distinct and separate disorders; each of which may employ the time and make the fortunes of physicians; while the general *cause* and *origin* of them remain unexamined, or is held designedly out of sight.

Almost all discoveries in physic have been owing to accident, or random experience; hardly any to the inquiry

of what is called the faculty. The use of that balmy and efficacious medicine *The Vegetable Syrup of Mr. De Velnos*, in scorbutic cases, has, in the practice of half a century, ascertained the above-mentioned disorders to be symptoms of a scorbutic habit; and, by removing the cause, has always removed the effects. Thus, in paralytic cases, patients, by seeking to get rid of pimples on limbs that were found, have been astonished at having a palsy totally cured; and others, seeking a cure for inflamed eyes, have not only found it, but have been relieved from alarming consumptions, nervous fevers, offensive breath, habitual cholics, the gout and rheumatism.

Satisfactory reasons will be given to prove the medicine wholly vegetable, if any should be necessary, after its long and extensive success in all the deplorable consequences of irregular passions, where mercury had been ineffectual, under the most skilful direction; or in recovering constitutions which had been almost destroyed by the use of that dangerous Mineral.

Directions for the Use of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup.

THE most artful parade of learning, and affectation of mystery, have been generally employed to impose on ignorance and credulity, in giving directions for the use of medicines.

The great variety of disorders in which the Vegetable Syrup of Mr. de Velnos is a certain and speedy remedy, the involved and contradictory symptoms by which those disorders are distinguished, would render even the strongest facts and attestations doubtful, if they did not evidently originate in one common cause, an *obstruction*, in some part or parts of the human constitution.

Its specific property is to pervade every nerve and fibre of the body, and to remove all matters that may inflame or relax it, or any of its parts. This it does without the injuries committed by electricity, and more effectually than any preparations of mercury or antimony, as may be seen by its evaporating and losing its best qualities when put into earthen or stone bottles, which will hold solutions of those minerals, spirits, water, and air; and what electricity,

city, mercury, and antimony effect by violence, the Vegetable Syrup obtains by gentle and harmless insinuation.

The directions for using it can only be general; but they are such as may be suited to common cases, by a moderate judgement and attention in the patients: where any doubts or difficulties arise, the experience and advice of the proprietor may be of the utmost consequence.

It effects the purposes for which it is given, by augmenting, in a gentle degree, or by restoring the usual secretions of the human constitution. The attention of the patient should be to the *degree* of this augmentation: for if the body be either too open or too cōstive; if the urine be not at all, or be too much affected; if the perspiration be not gently augmented, or the patient should perspire profusely; the ends of administering the medicine will not be so speedily and pleasantly answered.

A quantity gradually increased from two table spoonfuls to five, and taken night and morning, answers all these purposes to most of the patients whose cases have been made known to the proprietor. But some cases have occurred in which two spoonfuls would purge the bowels, and others, in which the patient was not affected by six.

The general rule is, to take that quantity which will, in the most gentle manner, keep the body open; and almost imperceptibly increase the other secretions of urine, perspiration, &c. When moderate doses of the Syrup do not keep the body open, it will be necessary to take a little cooling, gentle physic, once a week.

If any difficulties should arise in adjusting the matter, which must often be the case, Mr. Swainson, who, while he avoids and despises the assumed titles and audacious artifices of Quacks, makes the effects of his medicine the study of his life, will take the greatest pleasure in freely and gratuitously removing them; and he earnestly wishes those who enter on a course of the Vegetable Syrup would give him an opportunity of suggesting such hints as the treatment of many thousand cases have furnished.

The diet of every patient must depend on his constitution. The medicine abounds with the vegetable acid; and though blended and sheathed by the softest and most salutary balsams, very few patients find it adviseable to let their diet consist principally of vegetables, especially when raw or yielding strong acids.

The general rule in this case most favourable to the purposes of the Vegetable Syrup is, to let the diet consist of light and fresh meat; of roots and seeds, such as potatoes, turnips, rice, millet, &c. and when other vegetables can be taken, as they may in most cases, they should be boiled.

Most people find it adviseable to avoid great quantities of milk, especially if unmixed with tea or some other liquid, which prevents its being suddenly and violently curdled by the acid of the Vegetable Syrup. Milk has sometimes the same effect on those who take the Syrup which it has on bilious persons; and others take it in any quantity with impunity: so different are the contents of the human stomach, and the effects of the medicine on them.

Persons who are subject to eructations, to a painful acidity, and to the cholic, on taking common vegetables, have no such inconveniences from the Vegetable Syrup; so nicely and judiciously are the ingredients of it blended, and so carefully and thoroughly digested, as it were, in the preparation.

The cure will be retarded by sudden transitions from heat to cold, or from dry to wet; but none of the evils experienced from mercury in such cases are to be apprehended. And the use of the Vegetable Syrup is so far from requiring confinement, that cures are accelerated by air and exercise. Proper means should be taken to favour perspiration at the diseased parts, by gentle friction and the use of flannel, in gouts and rheumatisms; and by covering with linen only, in those commonly called scorbutic cases. The parts when uncovered, if necessary for the day, to be washed with warm water, and rubbed dry with a cloth. These directions to be particularly attended to in pimpled faces.

No opinion can be given of the quantity of Syrup which will remove a complaint. The same case which in one constitution may require only five or six bottles, in others may require twenty or even five and twenty.

*Disorders, deriving their origin or malignity from scorbutic
or scrophulous Constitutions.*

Lord Bacon observes, that our attention should be directed to "certain medicines, which, by secret and specific properties, regard either certain parts, or humours of the body, or certain diseases, and sometimes individual natures *."

The Vegetable Syrup of Mr. de Velnos is a medicine of this description, in those diseases which are either produced or aggravated by a scorbutic habit.

The impostures of Burrows, Hodson, Baylis, Mouldale, and Mouldale's wife, the inventor of the recipe used by Baylis, have occasioned partial injuries and perplexities, which, as usual, have issued in a general advantage. For the necessary mode of checking their depredations, by a literary discipline of the harshest kind, has rouzed the public attention, and induced ingenious men, by actual trial and chemical experiment, to distinguish the true Syrup from the false. If Mr. Swainson therefore could guard against the effects of artifice, falsehood, and perjury, on his temper and peace, the multiplication of impostors would be his happiness, for they would multiply his fortune.

The public interest is more concerned in the advantage which regular physicians take, of general prejudices against nostrums, to alarm those who are inclined to the use of the Syrup. To prevent a trial of it in cases, where every mode of applying mercury has been used in vain, the most celebrated physicians and surgeons in London are obliged to descend to the meanness of insinuating, "that it contains mercury or antimony." If they understood chemistry as well as they do taking fees and amputating limbs, they would detect the mercury or antimony with as little trouble, and with something more credit, than they utter the untruth.

To say nothing of the public analization of the genuine Syrup in Paris, inserted in Mr. Swainson's larger pamphlet, it has been often analized in England for the satisfaction of individuals. One of the best scholars in Europe, and a chemist of extensive knowledge, analized it last Summer, previous to his entering on a course of it; and his

* Vol. II. p. 554.

gratitude for the cure he obtained induced him to send Mr. Swainson an account of his process, and his letters may be seen in Frith Street.

Some gentlemen of the first eminence in the ecclesiastical and literary world have put the most delicate children on long courses of it, after satisfying themselves of its innocence, as well as of its efficacy.

A society is at this time just formed, which has persons of the first talents and character in the country, one of its purposes is to extend the use of this excellent medicine to paupers, whose cases are past the skill of the faculty. Its general object is to try the pretensions of nostrums; and the first experiments are directed to Velnos' Vegetable Syrup.

Mr. Swainson rejoices in such attention and such inquiries; and it must be from a consciousness of integrity in the preparation; for no fraud would long escape the researches of such men*.

As Mr. Swainson is disposed to submit to any inquiry and examination, short of discovering the recipe, to remove apprehensions concerning mercury and antimony, created by those who use mercury only in similar cases, it is to be hoped their artifices will be treated by the public with the contempt they deserve.

It is but justice, however, to say, that while some practitioners are straining every nerve to retain their patients to the last moments of life, some relinquish them when deemed incurable. Cases of the former kind will soon be made public, and the names of the physicians and surgeons inserted.

* While Mesmer, a German physician, was amassing a fortune by pretending to cure diseases by animal magnetism, the King of France deputed a commission, whose object was similar to that of the respectable society above mentioned. The commission consisted of the four first physicians in Paris, and five members of the Academy of Sciences. They minutely attended the processes of his principal disciple, published their proceedings, and gave animal magnetism a mortal blow. In England Government would have held-out its hand for the fees of patents; and having obtained those paltry perquisites, the impostors might have poisoned or plundered the nation — Mr. Swainson understands the first members of the English society are, four clerical, four medicinal, and four lay gentlemen, and that they will endeavour to revive the study of medicinal botany, from a conviction that multitudes are poisoned by minerals.

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The humanity of the latter is considered as an injury to the faculty ; and one of the most eminent surgeons in England, on relinquishing a case which was aggravated by mercury and hemlock, and advising Velnos' Vegetable Syrup as the *last* resource, was asked how he could recommend a medicine, of which he knew not the ingredients ? He answered, “ I know its effects ; and I recommend it as I would bark or mercury, of whose constituent parts I am also ignorant.”

A medicine, struggling with the impostures of quacks on the one hand, who have scrupled no species of villainy or infamy to impose spurious preparations under its name ; and the interested artifices of regular practitioners on the other, who have had recourse to the meanest misrepresentations to discredit it—must have wonderful properties to sustain its reputation, and increase its usefulness.

They are wonderful from the present medicinal ignorance of the scurvy, scrophula, and the numerous diseases which proceed from them. In this country almost every accident may call forth a tendency to the scurvy, scrophula, or cancer : small-pox, measles, slight fevers, colds, bruises, contusions, transplanting teeth, &c., bring into action the constitutional dispositions of the English, and produce scrophulous eruptions and ulcers, for which mercury and hemlock are as ineffectual as bread-pills ; but which are cured by the Vegetable Syrup of De Velnos, without torturing the patient with incisions, poisoning him with bad air, or wasting him with abstinence.

Avarice is unfavourable to knowledge, and the Syrup of De Velnos owes its superiority to the medicines in general use to the rapacity with which practitioners pursue riches. They take up prepossessions in their education in favour of strong and poisonous minerals ; and avarice never afterwards permits them to try the more safe and effectual assistance of vegetables.

The father of all modern knowledge, Lord Bacon, warns the world of the importance of the vegetable kingdom to the health of mankind. To stimulate physicians to recover and improve the hints of antient wisdom on this subject, he says, * “ Galen speaks of curing a schirrous liver by the

" milk of a cow that fed upon certain herbs ; the honey " in Spain smells of the rosemary and orange tree, from " whence it was gathered," &c. But our surgeons and physicians are not in general disciples of Lord Bacon. Mercury, antimony, arsenic, hemlock, and opium, are their means of making fortunes ; those poisons will suspend the diseased actions of the body, and indeed all its actions ; and they require practice and skill in administering them to prevent the imputation of murder. This skill of *keeping the patient hovering in the use of poisons, between the suspended disorder and suspended life,* is the great art of modern medicine, at least as far as scurvy, or scrophula is concerned. Medicines, like the Vegetable Syrup of De Velnos, which immediately cure the disease and benefit the constitution, would leave no room for this profitable address, and would sweep physicians and surgeons thus employed in swarms from the face of the earth.

Mr. Swainson's experience will warrant his declaring, that whatever disease be the effect of scorbutic or scrophulous habits, is curable by the Vegetable Syrup of Mr. De Velnos. Partial colds or inflammations give the scurvy the denomination of gout, rheumatism, suppression of the menses and consumption ; slight fevers in similar habits produce nervous disorders, apoplexy and palsy. In infancy, the scurvy gives a general debility, attended with tumours in the neck : in mature age, it assumes the form of almost all disorders, and is called into action by all accidents : in the decline of life, it gives a leprous, schirrous, or cancerous form, to almost all the diseases which either accident or intemperance may have brought on the constitution.

Mr. Swainson would be happy if at liberty to publish one in ten only of the cures performed by this excellent medicine ; but a false shame prevents it, in persons of fortune and rank. He has hopes, however, he may induce all patients to register their cases for private inspection at his house. One of the best institutions of antiquity is mentioned with great approbation by Galen. He says, registers of diseases, and the means by which they were cured, were kept in the Temple of Vulcan in Egypt. Every body was at liberty to consult them ; and all were required to register their cases. How extensive the utility of such an institution in England, where the deeds of regulars

and

and empirics would be recorded ! Mr. Swainson, while avoiding the artifices and injuries of either class, despising the fraudulent titles and arts of quack doctors, and regretting the uncandid and avaritious prejudices of regular practitioners, will be content with the satisfaction and credit of registering the effects, and extending the utility of a genuine and faithful preparation of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, which can be made only by himself.

C A S E I. *Leprosy.*

Under the Direction of Dr. MERCIER.

Mr. Robert Hutton, at the Penny Post Office, opposite Mount Row, Lambeth Marsh, was for years afflicted with the most violent scurvy. The eruptions and pustules were confluent, and covered the whole body in such a manner, that the disorder was pronounced a leprosy. While an out-patient at St. George's Hospital, and probably in the use of mercurial medicines, his joints, particularly his right ankle, had hard and painful swellings ; his knee was contracted ; and a hectic fever, want of appetite and rest, almost brought him to his grave. The first bottle of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup gave him hope ; and his cure was effected in six weeks.

Witnesses to the cure—J. Willis, master of the Thatched-house Tavern, St. James's Street ; R. Sutton, master of the Ladies Coterie, Albemarle Street.

C A S E II. *Scrophulous Tumors, Ulcers, &c.*

Under the Direction of Mr. SWAINSON.

In the year 1780, Samuel Pogmore was induced by the heat of the weather to go into the water in a state of high perspiration. This occasioned almost immediately a thick eruption over the whole body. A latent disease of a scorbutic or scrophulous nature predisposed his constitution to such eruption, which is a common effect of obstructed perspiration in similar habits. He applied to several medical gentlemen, and

took medicines, (mercurial or antimonial without doubt, for they are the nostrums of the faculty.) The pimples became tumours, which produced large ulcers in almost every part of his body. The matter discharged was so great in quantity, as to stiffen his clothes: it was so foetid and offensive, and wasted his strength so rapidly, that he could derive no consolation but from the near approach of death. In this condition he was recommended to Mr. Swainson, the latter end of the Summer, 1783, by Mr. Dutton. He is now completely cured, and in perfect health.

S A M U E L P O G M O R E,

At the Castle and Falcon, Holborn.

Witness—Benjamin Dutton, Bedford Street, Covent Garden.

C A S E III. *Scorbutic Rheumatism.*

Under the Direction of Dr. MERCIER.

Mr. Thomas Howels, Lambeth Marsh, had long a scorbutic complaint, attended with rheumatic pains, which became at last a general and confirmed rheumatism. The pains in every part of his body were so excruciating, and he was rendered so feeble and helpless, that the assistance necessary to turn him in bed kept him for three months in dreadful agonies. Two gentlemen of the faculty attended him, whom he will have the candour privately to name; but he was so far from finding relief, that they procured no alleviation of his disorder. He was recommended by Mr. Hutton, at the Penny Post Office, to the use of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup. The first bottle brought on a perspiration, and mitigated the pains; and in less than two months he was restored to perfect health. Mr. Swainson can refer to a multitude of persons who have been cured of the rheumatism in the same manner.

Witnesses to the cure—Joseph Hopkins, surgeon, No. 85, Compton Street, Soho; Robert Hutton, at the Penny Post Office, Lambeth Marsh.

C A S E

C A S E . IV. *Scorbutic Gout.*

To Mr. SWAINSON,

SIR,

Madeira, June 23, 1785.

I cannot deny myself the pleasure of informing you, that, until the 17th instant, I have entirely escaped the gout ever since Christmas, except a few slight symptoms of it in my right wrist, and two distinct fits in the last joint of my left fore finger, each of which lasted but a few days. On the 17th instant, after a great deal of walking in very bad roads here, I was attacked with a pain in my right ankle, which has confined me five days, and exhausted itself in my right knee, which is now a good deal swelled, but free from any violent pain. The mildness of this fit, and the gentleness of the other attack above mentioned, I ascribe to the use of your Syrup, of which I took seven bottles in the spring. I must just add, that until I took your Syrup I have never missed a smart fit of the gout every spring since the year 1768.

I am, Sir,

Your humble servant,

A. LITTELJOHN.

C A S E V. *Rheumatic Gout and Ague.**Under the Direction of Mr. SWAINSON.*

Mr. Thomas Joyce, of Warwick Row, Coventry, in the year 1782, had a violent rheumatic gout, and was deprived of the use of his limbs, which some time after he partially recovered, though the gout was not eradicated. In the beginning of the year 1784, the disorder put on a complicated appearance, and he was so far from finding relief from the Materia Medica, that the disease acquired greater malignity in proportion to the application of medicines; and in the September of the same year, he was so reduced as to be incapable of walking without assistance. When he entered on a course of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, in September 1784, he had hard swellings in various parts of his body, particularly on the shin bones; his legs and feet were swollen, pains in every part of his body, spitting of blood, total loss of strength, depression of spirits, and a voracious appetite, were

were alarming symptoms in his emaciated and declining state. On taking the Syrup of Mr. De Velnos, he gradually and rapidly got better. In the latter end of December, he was perfectly restored to health; and from being a skeleton, his person assumed a full and lusty appearance. In February, 1785, he took cold, which terminated in an *ague*, and in the third fit he took five spoonfuls of the Syrup of Mr. De Velnos, which immediately brought on a profuse perspiration, totally expelled the ague, which returned no more, and he is now in perfect health.

May, 1785.

C A S E VI. *Scrophula.*

Under the Direction of Dr. MERCIER.

Mr. John Lane, master of the Angel inn and livery stables, Birmingham, was afflicted several years by a most inveterate scrophula; almost the whole body was covered with pimples and scales; the face, head, arms, and legs, were particularly affected, and the matter or humour it discharged was so thin, hot and corrosive, as to eat into the flesh with excessive pain. In this deplorable situation, with the usual aggravations of want of appetite and sleep, he was advised to try the Vegetable Syrup of M. de Velnos; and in less than three months he was perfectly cured, to the astonishment of his acquaintance, as well as to his own satisfaction and joy.

Witnesses—P. F. Bourgeois, merchant, Birmingham; Thomas Warren, printer, ditto.

Mr. Swainson has leave to refer to several persons who have been cured in similar conditions.

C A S E

CASE VII. *Scorbutic Rheumatism, Gout and Ulcer.*

To Mr. SWAINSON.

DEAR SIR,

I was several years tormented by a disorder, which the faculty called sometimes the rheumatism, sometimes the gout. It appeared to originate in a scorbutic habit, and an ulcer formed in my right leg. I was under the care of several physicians and surgeons; the wound varied in its appearances, but never thoroughly healed; and I was so reduced as to be obliged to walk on crutches. I tried Margate, Bath, and in short every thing the faculty advised. Your Syrup had been frequently recommended; but I could not imagine any single medicine could have removed disorders so complicated as mine. Despair, however, obliged me to have recourse to you; and when you brought a surgeon to examine me, and gave me hopes on his discouraging report, I attributed it to your humanity, not to your conviction. My satisfaction and surprise were equal to my despondence, on finding, that by the use of the Syrup alone, (for you had ordered all my draughts, salves, and plaisters, to be thrown away,) the whole habit of body gradually mended, my gouty and rheumatic visitants disappeared, and the ulcer soon received a sound and radical cure.

I should have published my case sooner, in justice to your medicine and your character, as well as humanity to others in similar afflictions; if partly in consequence of having recourse to you, I had not been embarrassed by a lawsuit with a surgeon who attended me, and who is said (I hope not with truth) to have been supported in the action by the Corporation of Surgeons. However that be, I defeated the design; the cause was tried before Lord Loughborough on the 30th of June last; and in the Morning Chronicle of the 5th instant you may see an account of it, as a lesson to the Surgeons.

I remain, dear Sir,

Your's sincerely,

JOHN FITZGERALD,

Goldsmith and jeweller,

No. 23, Lower Holborn, London.

July 20, 1786.

P A L S Y.

C A S E VII. *Palsy.*

Under the Direction of Dr. MERCIER.

Mrs. Swainson, No. 12, Great May's Buildings, St. Martin's Lane, in the winter of the year 1782, had a stroke of the palsy; it nearly took away the use of her left side, particularly her arm, which seemed totally dead. An apothecary of great skill and reputation ordered the arm to be rubbed with a blistering ointment, which inflamed it to a great degree; and it remained many days in that shocking state, notwithstanding the incessant application of fomentations and poultices. Some scorbutic symptoms appearing about her, Mr. Swainson recollects, that some years before she had been relieved of eruptions and pimples by Velnos' Vegetable Syrup, for which she had taken great quantities of drops and diet drinks in vain. Mr. Swainson had hopes, that the Syrup might also abate and remove the inflammation in the arm; but not the slightest idea that the palsy would be affected. To the great astonishment and joy of the whole family, a warmth was felt through the diseased side, which for many weeks had been as cold as ice. The transports of a condemned criminal, on receiving pardon, could not be greater than her's; for she had been left hopeless by the faculty. In about three months she was perfectly cured, and restored to a better state of health than she had enjoyed for many years.

As this event determined Mr. Swainson (not to become a quack doctor, for he will never sink the uniform reputation of his life to act in that suspicious and injurious capacity) but to purchase at a very high price the original receipt of Mr. de Velnos, and to pledge himself to see it prepared and sold with the strictest integrity and honour, it is his happiness that he can, in addition to his own, and that of Mrs. Swainson, refer to the testimony of all his friends,

and

and almost all his acquaintance, for the truth of this extraordinary event in his family.

C A S E VIII. Palsy.

Under the Direction of Dr. MERCIER.

Mr. John Farquharson, No. 51, Queen-Ann Street East, near Portland Chapel, had a paralytic stroke in the year 1780, which took away the use of his left side. He had the advice and prescription of two eminent physicians; but the disorder baffled their skill. The case of Mrs. Swainson being known, he was advised to apply in Frith Street. The disorder had remained upon him three years, and his age was beyond sixty; he was, however, cured by the Vegetable Syrup of Mr. de Velnos, and is now in very good health.

Mr. Swainson has leave to refer to persons who found relief in the palsy.

C A S E IX.

To Mr. SWAINSON.

S I R,

Birmingham,
Navigation Office, Sept. 28, 1783.

I had lain under a violent rheumatic pain in my head for a considerable time, when about eight years ago I was advised to the cold bath; the first immersion relieved me from the pain, but brought on a paralytic complaint, which for a short time deprived me of my mental faculties, the use of my left side, and the sight of that eye: my faculties and the sight of the eye were in a few months restored by medical assistance, electricity, and sea-bathing; the left side continued very weak and helpless: the severity of the two last winters, or some other cause unknown, very much impaired my remaining health and strength, insomuch that I was apprehensive of a deep consumption, and the near approach of my dissolution: my left leg swelled very much, and became discoloured and very painful near the ankle; my left eye extremely weak; my breath short and foetid, and my spirits low. In this situation it was natural to wish for relief, and I was prevailed upon to take a few bottles of

your

your Syrup, although the spring was so very cold and severe: before I had taken four bottles, the swelling and pain of my leg were removed; the circulation of my left side and the use of it much increased, and my left eye very much strengthened; my breath became sweet, and my spirits lively and cheerful. During the whole time I continued taking your Syrup, viz. from February to the latter end of April, I perceived my health, strength, and spirits, gradually increase, and can with great pleasure, satisfaction, and gratitude, say, that in these respects I never was better. My left side still continues rather weak, and the perfect use is not quite restored, but hope a few bottles, which I intend to take next spring, will, with the blessing of God, quite restore it; and I doubt not but it would now have been perfect, had the winter and spring been less severe.

I am, Sir,

With the truest respect,

Your grateful humble servant,

JOHN RIDYARD.

*Additional Effects of the Medicine under the Direction of
Mrs. SWAINSON.*

Suppression of the Menses.

C A S E X.

Mary Lewelyn, lately a servant to Mrs. Farren, Monmouth Street, Bath, took a violent cold in December 1784, which occasioned a total suppression of the menses, attended by oedematous swellings of the legs and feet. Indurations appeared in various parts of the body, resembling boils covered with leprous scales, which fell off, and were succeeded by others. Her appetite and strength declined, and her condition became extremely wretched. She had been attended by a physician and by two eminent surgeons at Bath, and she had tried the waters with no beneficial effect. In this miserable state she was recommended to the Infirmary at Bristol as to the last asylum of despairing wretchedness, when she was fortunately advised to try the Vegetable

Vegetable Syrup of Mr. de Velnos. In six days it brought on the periodical discharge, and in three weeks perfectly completed a cure.

Farther information of this case may be had of Mr. Pine, printer, at Bristol.

C A S E XI. *Suppression of the Menses.*

To Mr. SWAINSON.

S I R,

I owe my life to your humanity, and the virtues of the Syrup you prepare; and I submit my case to public notice, in hopes that those in similar circumstances may seek your assistance.

On the 17th of May, 1785, I was taken ill in consequence of a cold. I had pains in my stomach, giddiness in my head, and shivering fits. In about a week my legs and thighs began to swell; and I gradually grew so big, that I could not stoop or walk. I sent for an apothecary, who bled me, gave me draughts, and some diet-drink; but I did not get better under his care: and I had recourse to Dr. Meyerbach, who told me I should soon find relief, and gave me powders and various other drugs, but I grew worse; the swelling increased; my legs burst; and great quantities of a thin watery substance ran from them. At this time the menses were quite stopped; a warm and bitter water kept constantly running from my mouth; so that I could not lie down without danger of suffocation; the swelling increased, particularly about my loins, abdomen, and stomach; a general soreness, like an inflammation, prevailed over my body, attended with excruciating pains; and I was blind for more than a week. I then sent to Sir John Elliot, and was under his care a great while, but without hope either of a cure, or of life. When he slackened his visits, as if to avoid the importunities of despair, and all my friends expected my death, I was fortunately recommended to you, Sir; and on the 17th of September you had the goodness to put me on a course of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup. In three weeks I was so much relieved by the prodigious discharge it occasioned from the legs, that I could sit and lie down without danger. Sir John Elliot called as he passed,

expressed

expressed his astonishment at my being alive and better; and attributing it to his last prescription, which I had long discontinued, he began to exult, and said I was now out of danger, and should soon do well. I told him what he saw was the effect of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup. Aye, said he, looking as if I had hit him in the face; and snatching up his hat, he hurried with precipitation out of the house.—I persevered in the use of the Syrup, gradually getting relief; but the obstruction of the menses did not give way till the month of January 1786. From that time I got better with great rapidity; and I now, thank God, enjoy my usual health.

I am, Sir,

With great gratitude,

June 14,
1786.

Your obliged and humble servant,

MARY ASHLEY,
Church Lane, Chelsea.

Witnesses,

Mr. Maton, Queen Elme, Chelsea.

Mr. Montellier, ditto.

Mr. Thomas Ashley, Church Lane, Chelsea.

Mr. Wakefield, Cross Lane, Long Acre.

Mr. Bedford, Coachmaker, Long Acre.

Mr. Deyken, Long Acre.

Mr. Tucker, ditto.

Mr. Haynes, New Tothil Street, Westminster.

Mr. Jeffries, Wild Passage, Drury Lane.

C A S E XII. *Scorbutic Dropsy.*

To Mr. SWAINSON.

SIR,

Litchfield Street, St. Martin's Lane,
Dec. 6, 1785.

Hardly any circumstance in my life has surprised me so much as the recovery of Sion Girney. When I was ordered by the insurance office to rebuild your laboratory, and sent him to assist, I was actuated more by my own feelings for his situation, than any opinion he could render much service; and when I withdrew him, it was with a view to afford him a little assistance, in alleviating the misery.

misery in which I supposed he must soon have gone out of the world.

He was so swollen, that his figure and countenance hardly bore a human appearance; and his thighs and legs were covered with scorbutic scales. I directed him to apply to Mr. Pinkstan in St. Alban's Street; and he had the assistance of Mr. French, apothecary, in Coventry Street. The gentlemen, I have no doubt, treated him with skill and humanity. He was ordered issues in both legs, and other proceedings were had; but the disorder, instead of being checked, daily gained on his constitution, when he fortunately became the subject of conversation between you and me.

I am not fond of appearing publicly as a writer, even of a short letter; but I thought the generosity and compassion with which you gratuitously undertook the cure of a poor man in such circumstances, almost as extraordinary as the effects of your wonderful medicine; and I think it my duty to bear my testimony to both.

On taking the first bottle, the watery humour was forced down in such a quantity, as daily to fill his shoes. As the swelling gave way, the leprous appearances of the extremities were gradually disposed to heal; and in less than a month, to the astonishment of all who had seen him, the dropsy, the scorbutic scales, and even the issues on his legs, all disappeared.

I am, with great regard, both for your humanity and skill,

Your most obedient humble servant,

ALEX. CAMPBELL.

C A S E XIII.

To Mr. SWAINSON.

SIR,

Gratitude and justice demand that I should send you the following account of the extraordinary effect of Velnos' Vegetable Syrup on a child of mine, and especially as it will be the means of adding one more testimony to the virtues of that excellent medicine, and may induce others to try it in cases where it has not yet been used; and I
heartily

heartily wish, for the good of mankind, that it may become an universal panacea.

On the 16th of May last my son, three years old, had an eruption upon him, but did not appear to be otherwise disordered. As he had been inoculated at ten months old for the small pox, I took this to be either the chicken or swine pox, and sent him out in the air; which being very cold for the season, struck the eruption in, as I imagined; for when he came home the pustules appeared to be sunk, and the child was soon after very ill with a high fever. He continued in this way for several days, and was attended by a physician and an apothecary, both eminent in their profession; but notwithstanding all that they could do, by bleeding, blisters, and other outward and inward applications, he continued to grow worse; and at last had every symptom of approaching death, and was given up by the physician, and every one else who saw him.

In this dilemma, anxious for the life of my only boy, I was considering if there were any other means to be tried in order to restore him, when fortunately I recollect Vellos' Vegetable Syrup, and proposed to Mrs. Humphry to give it the child; but she was fearful of trying a medicine, the effect of which in such a disorder, according to the cases published, had not been experienced: but I observed, that if its salutary effects were so very extraordinary in other disorders arising from foulness of blood, and consequently the regular functions of nature being thereby obstructed, why might it not do good in this case which answered such description? We consulted some friends, and at last it was agreed, that as I had the pleasure of being known to you, that I should ask your opinion on the subject: I accordingly waited on you, when you were so kind as to inform me, that you had never known the Syrup to be tried in such a case, but assured me, that if I was disposed to give it to the child, if it did him no good, it would do him no harm.

On this I determined to try it, and accordingly took home with me a bottle of the Syrup, and, agreeable to your directions, gave the child a table spoonful thereof, which was to be repeated every eight hours. The first dose was given at ten at night on Friday the 27th of May: about four the next morning we perceived the child's fever to abate, and a gentle perspiration came on. Happy to find such

such a pleasing change, I continued to supply him regularly with the Syrup at first as above directed, and afterwards at longer intervals, as you advised; my child gradually mended, and, before the bottle was quite out, perfectly recovered, and now enjoys a good state of health.

I am respectfully, Sir,

Your obliged and very humble servant,

July 9, 1785.

GEORGE HUMPHREY,
Printseller and dealer in natural curiosities,
No. 48, Long Acre.

P. S. I have inclosed my child's case drawn up more at large, which I beg may be laid up in your repository for such things, as a memorial of this extraordinary cure, and for the information of such as may wish to know farther particulars thereof.

C A S E XIV. *Scrophula.*

Navigation Office, Birmingham,

May 23, 1786.

S I R,

I should be wanting in gratitude if I was to omit the communication of benefits similar to those I have derived by your Vegetable Syrup. Having received great benefit from it last spring, I recommended it to the parents of a child about twelve years of age, who had every spring and fall, since she was inoculated for the small pox, been afflicted with scrofulous tumours on her face and glands, for which many of the faculty have prescribed, but to no purpose. The degree of virulence last spring exceeds description: whilst in this state, she began to take your Syrup by two spoonfuls night and morning; its good effects were soon discovered, and she was perfectly cured and restored to health by taking two bottles only: and what is more remarkable, not the least symptom has this season appeared, and she is now a fine, hearty, florid girl.

I remain, with gratitude and respect,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN RIDYARD.

Mr.

Mr. Swainson is at liberty privately to mention scorbutic and scrophulous cases assuming all the symptoms and appearances of the King's evil, and cured by Verno's Vegetable Syrup, which he must not publish.

N. B. This little pamphlet has been printed in a distinct form, by the desire of several families of the first consequence, who wished to withhold even the punishments of some vices from the inspection of delicate and uncorrupted youth. The Syrup of Mr. de Velnos owes its first celebrity to its unrivalled efficacy in a disease, which once alarmed Europe, as if menacing the extirpation of the human species. Mercury is the feeble barrier opposed by the faculty to this dreadful evil, in which Velnos' Vegetable Syrup alone is a certain and infallible specific. Mr. Swainson hesitates where he has any doubts; but in this disorder, no man ever underwent a course of his Syrup without obtaining a perfect cure.

Cases of this nature are given in another pamphlet.

